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REPORT OF THE PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INSECTA.

Having been elected to the Professorship of the Department of Insecta on the thirtieth day of March, 1895, I have the honor to submit this, my first report. Some idea of the field covered in this department may be derived from the fact that we have about 126,000 specimens in the collection, divided as follows:—

Lepidoptera,	33,600 specimens.
Coleoptera,	43,800 specimens.
Hymenoptera,	36,240 specimens.
Neuroptera,	2,400 specimens.
Diptera, }	10,000 specimens.
Hemiptera, }	
Orthoptera, }	

These collections are believed to be in a better state of arrangement and preservation than ever before, and museum pests have been almost annihilated. The Conservator of the Entomological Section has been greatly aided by members interested in the several orders, and much valuable work has been done by them in the departments in which they make special studies. It is hoped that the fine collection of local insects will soon be completed by the aid of the Feldman Collecting Social of Philadelphia and individual members. The department needs new cases to replace the older ones that are not absolutely safe, and, in the future, metal cases, which can be practically hermetically sealed against dust and pests, should be secured.

A course of five lectures has been delivered covering the general subject, including the classification, anatomy, orders, technic, and economic or practical entomology.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY SKINNER.

REPORT OF THE CURATOR OF THE WM. S. VAUX COLLECTIONS.

The Curator of the William S. Vaux Collections reports that during the year there have been added to the mineralogical cabinet, by purchase, 185 specimens. A nugget of native gold from Alaska was presented by C. B. Moore, bringing the number of specimens

in the collection, November 30, 1896, to 7,966. Several of the specimens thus added are new to the collection. Attention is especially called to a superb crystal of green tourmaline with pink terminations. It is probably the finest specimen yet found at Haddam, Conn. The collection is in good order. No addition has been made to the archæological section.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. W. JEFFERIS,
Curator.

The election of Officers, Councillors and Members of the Finance Committee to serve during 1897, was held with the following result:—

<i>President,</i>	. . . .	Samuel G. Dixon, M. D.
<i>Vice-Presidents,</i>	. . . .	Thomas Meehan.
		Rev. Henry C. McCook, D. D.
<i>Recording Secretary,</i>	. . . .	Edward J. Nolan, M. D.
<i>Corresponding Secretary,</i>	. . . .	Benjamin Sharp, M. D.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	. . . .	George Vaux, Jr.
<i>Librarian,</i>	. . . .	Edward J. Nolan, M. D.
<i>Curators,</i>	. . . .	Henry A. Pilsbry.
		Henry C. Chapman, M. D.
		Arthur Erwin Brown.
		Samuel G. Dixon, M. D.
<i>Councillors to serve three years,</i>		Thomas A. Robinson.
		Harrison Allen, M. D.
		Chas. Morris.
		Isaac J. Wistar.
<i>Finance Committee,</i>	. . . .	Charles Morris.
		Chas. E. Smith.
		Uselma C. Smith.
		William Sellers.
		Charles P. Perot.

ELECTIONS DURING 1896.

MEMBERS.

January 28.—James C. Corry, P. Calvin Mensch, M. D., Ph.D., J. Norris De Haven, Edw. Gideon, A. M., Geo. de Schweinitz, M. D., Ruth Clement, M. D., Chas. E. Hite, Henry Trimble, C. Howard Colket, Sarah Y. Stevenson.

February 25.—Arthur N. Leeds, Morris Earle, H. W. Wenzel, George L. Farnum, J. Edward Farnum, Vickers Oberholtzer, Ph.D., Homer E. Hoopes, A. Feldpauch.

March 31.—Jacob Reese, Louis S. Amonson, E. G. Conklin, Mary T. S. Schaeffer, Walter P. Stokes, Charles L. Phillips, A. Donaldson Smith, M. D.

April 28.—Wm. H. Roberts.

August 25.—Thomas Chalkley Palmer.